ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

In a method of demodulating and decoding an encoded interleaved signal, a received encoded interleaved signal is demodulated, thereby producing soft-decision demodulated output words. Thereafter, the soft-decision demodulated output words are de-interleaved and scaled, thereby producing de-interleaved and scaled words. The scaling is performed for a plurality of successively demodulated output words at a time, thereby applying a scale factor that is substantially constant over the entire span of an interleaving frame. The de-interleaved and scaled words are word-length-reduced words. Finally, the de-interleaved and scaled words are decoded.